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(54) Title: PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITION FOR TRANSDERMAL DELIVERY

(57) Abstract

A pharmaceutical composition for transdermal delivery comprising an effective amount of an active ingredient selected from a benzodiazepine and a benzodiazepine antagonist; and either ethanol; caprylic acid; and oleic acid; or isopropanol, propylene glycol, oleic acid, and water. Additionally, the composition may contain silicon fluid, benzyl alcohol, transcutol or dimethyl sulfoxide.

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Pharmaceutical composition for transdermal delivery

Benzodiazepines are used as sedative hypnotics, in the treatment of anxiety disorders and in the treatment of seizures.

Benzodiazepine antagonists, such as, flumazenil, are used for a complete or partial reversal of the sedative effects of benzodiazepines and for the management of benzodiazepine overdose.

Benzodiazepines and benzodiazepine antagonists, are administered either via gastrointestinal tract or parenterally. Alternatively, a transdermal route of drug delivery can be used. Generally, the most critical problem in this route is the lack of adequate absorption of drugs through the skin.

A pharmaceutical composition for transdermal delivery comprising an effective amount of an active ingredient selected from a benzodiazepine and a benzodiazepine antagonist, and either a) caprylic acid, ethanol, and oleic acid; or b) isopropanol, propylene glycol, oleic acid, and water.

As used herein, the term benzodiazepine means any active pharmaceutical compound in the benzodiazepine family, such as, diazepam, chlordiazepoxide, fluazepam, lorazepam and clonazepam, preferably clonazepam.

As used herein the term benzodiazepine antagonist means any compound antagonistic to benzodiazepines, such as, preferably flumazenil.

In one aspect, the present invention relates to a pharmaceutical composition for transdermal delivery comprising an effective amount

of an active ingredient selected from a benzodiazepine and benzodiazepine antagonist; ethanol; caprylic acid; and oleic acid with or without an inert carrier.

Ethanol is present preferably in the range of from about 10 to about 95 percent by weight of the compositions. In a particularly preferred embodiment, ethanol is present in the composition in the range of from about 24 to about 90 percent by weight of such compositions.

Preferably, caprylic acid is present in such compositions in the range of from about 1 to about 10 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred at about 3 percent.

In the compositions according to that aspect of the invention, preferably, oleic acid is present in such compositions in the range of from about 1 to about 10 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred at about 3 percent.

When the active ingredient is a benzodiazepine antagonist, such as flumazenil, preferably, ethanol is present in such compositions in an amount of from about 10 to about 95 percent by weight of the composition; particularly preferred in an amount of from about 50 to about 70 percent; caprylic acid is present in the composition in an amount of from about 1 to about 10 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred in an amount of from about 3 to 5 percent; and oleic acid is present in such compositions in an amount of from about 1 to about 10 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred in an amount of from about 3 to 5 percent.

When the active ingredient is a benzodiazepine, such as clonazepam, preferably, ethanol is present in the composition in an amount of from about 10 to about 95 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred in an amount of from about 50 to 90 percent; caprylic acid is present in the composition in an amount of

from about 1 to about 10 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred at about 3 percent; and oleic acid is present in the composition in an amount of from about 1 to about 10 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred at about 3 percent.

The compositions of the above described aspect of the invention may contain additional enhancing materials such as, for example, silicon fluid such as Silicon Dow® 556 (polyphenyl methyl siloxane), preferably in the range of from about 15 to about 25 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred at about 20 percent; dimethylsulfoxide, preferably in the range of from about 1 to about 20 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred at about 2 percent; acetone, preferably in the range of from about 15 to about 25 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred at about 20 percent; caprylic/capric triglyceride such as Miglyol® 840 (propylene glycol diesters of saturated vegetable fatty acids of the chain lengths C_8-C_{10}, particularly 2% max caproic acid ($C_{6:0}$), 65-80% caprylic acid ($C_{8:0}$), 15-30% capric acid ($C_{10:0}$), and 3% max. linoleic acid ($C_{18:2}$) Dynamit Nobel), preferably in the range of from about 25 to about 40 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred at about 36 percent; transcutol (diethylene glycol monoethyl ether from Gattefosse) preferably in the range of from about 15 to about 30 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred at about 20 percent; and benzyl alcohol, preferably in the range of from about 5 to about 15 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred at about 10 percent.

In another aspect, the present invention relates to a pharmaceutical composition for transdermal delivery comprising an effective amount of an active ingredient selected from a benzodiazepine and benzodiazepine antagonist; isopropanol; propylene glycol; oleic acid; and water with or without an inert carrier.

Preferably, isopropanol is present in such compositions in the range of from about 10 to about 95 percent by weight of the

composition. In a particularly preferred embodiment, isopropanol is present in the composition in an amount of about 20% by weight of the composition.

Preferably, propylene glycol is present in these compositions in the range of from about 30 to about 50 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred in the range of from about 35 to about 45 percent by weight.

Preferably, oleic acid is present in these compositions in the range of from about 1 to about 10 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred is about 5 percent by weight.

Preferably, water is present in these compositions in the range of from about 10 to about 30 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred in the range of from about 20 to about 25 percent by weight.

When the active ingredient is a benzodiazepine antagonist such as flumazenil, preferably isopropanol is present in these compositions in an amount of about 20 percent by weight of the composition; propylene glycol is present in an amount of from about 38 to about 47 percent by weight of the composition; oleic acid is present in an amount of about 5 percent by weight of the composition; and water is present in an amount of about 20 percent by weight of the composition.

The composition of the aforesaid aspect of the invention may contain additional enhancing materials such as, for example, Diacetin (glycerol diacetate from Davos Chemical), preferably in the range of from 5 to 15 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred in about 10 percent; Cetiol B® (dibutyl adipate from Henkel Co.), preferably in the range of from 1 to 10 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred in about 5 percent; caprylic acid, preferably in the range of from 1 to 10 percent of the composition,

particularly preferred in about 5 percent; silicon fluid such as, Silicon Dow® 556 (polyphenyl methyl siloxane), preferably in the range of from 5 to 15 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred in about 10 percent; caprylic/capric triglyceride, such as Miglyol® 840 (propylene glycol diesters of saturated vegetable fatty acids of the chain lengths C_8-C_{10}, particularly 2% max caproic acid ($C_{6:0}$), 65-80% caprylic acid ($C_{8:0}$), 15-30% capric acid ($C_{10:0}$), and 3% max. linoleic acid ($C_{18:2}$) Dynamit Nobel) preferably in the range of from 5 to 15 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred in about 10 percent; transcutol (diethylene glycol monoethyl ether from Gattefosse), preferably in the range of from 5 to 15 percent by weight of the composition, particularly preferred in about 10 percent.

Pharmaceutical compositions in accordance with this invention can be formulated to additionally contain conventional additives or supplementary ingredients in the usual amounts for such materials. The composition can be in the form of a gel, as well as, in the form of a solution, preferably a thickened solution. By way of illustration such additives or supplements include the following.

Gelling agents which can be used include, for example, hydroxy methyl cellulose, preferably in the range of from 1 to 4 percent by weight of the composition; tragacanth preferably in the range of from 2 to 5 percent by weight of the composition; sodium alginate, preferably in the range of from 2 to 10 percent by weight of the composition; gelatin, preferably in the range of from 2 to 15 percent by weight of the composition; methylcellulose, preferably in the range of from 2 to 4 percent by weight of the composition; sodium carboxymethylcellulose, preferably in the range of from 2 to 5 percent by weight of the composition; and polyvinyl alcohols, preferably in the range of from 10 to 20 percent by weight of the composition. A particularly preferred gelling agent is Klucel®.

Klucel HF is a hydroxypropyl cellulose (Hercules Inc.) with a molecular weight in the 1,000,000 range and moisture content of 17% for 1,500-2,500. Hydroxypropyl cellulose is preferably present in the composition in the range of from 1.0 to 5.0 percent by weight, particularly preferred in the range of from 1.0 to 4.0 percent by weight. Generally, enough Klucel is added to provide a reasonably good gel-consistency to the product.

The preservatives which can be used in the invention include, for example, parabens, preferably at about 0.2%; benzoic acid, preferably at about 0.2%; and, chlorocresol, preferably at about 0.1%.

If needed, antioxidants can be used in the gel formulations to improve the stability of the drug. These antioxidants include, for example, ascorbyl palmitate, butylated hydroxyanisole, butylated hydroxytoluene, potassium sorbate, sodium bisulfate, sorbic acid, propyl gallate and sodium metabisulfite.

Preferably, the pharmaceutical composition of the invention are administered to a host in need of such treatment in a transdermal patch of a reservoir type.

Adhesives used in making transdermal patches for use with the invention include, for example, preferably poly-isobutylene, silicone based adhesives and acrylic polymers. The adhesive polymers can be mixed with other excipients such as mineral oil to make them more suitable for a given purpose.

The backing membrane of a transdermal patch constitutes the upper part (exposed to the environment) of a transdermal patch and is made of materials such as, for example, preferably polyester films, ethyl vinyl acetate, polypropylene, polyethylene and polyvinyl-chloride.

A rate controlling membrane of a transdermal patch is placed in contact with the pharmaceutical composition of the invention and its other side is in contact with the skin of a host. The rate controlling membrane is made of materials such as, for example, preferably, dimethylpolysiloxane, polyacetate, polyurethane and ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer and polypropylene.

At the bottom of a transdermal patch, a protective liner is placed in contact with the adhesive layer. This liner protects against the drug release from the formulation reservoir until the liner is peeled off the patch and applied on the skin surface of the host. Such liners are made of materials including preferably polyethylene terephthalate film, polyester membrane and polycarbonate film.

Alternatively, one can make transdermal patches which are called monolithic or adhesive type patches. In this case, the drug is dispersed either in a suitable adhesive or in a suitable non-adhesive polymer and then the mixture is layered onto a membrane. A protective membrane is placed on the adhesive.

In vivo tests were utilized to evaluate the absorption of benzodiazepines and benzodiazepine antagonists administered in accordance with this invention.

Methods

General Procedure: Hairless guinea pigs (HGP) were anesthetized by using Ketamin-HCl and promazine. The side sites of the animals were cleaned with water. Zero time blood samples were withdrawn from the ocular site. The transdermal drug delivery systems were placed on the skin, two per animal providing a total area of 9.0 to 10.0 sq. cm., precisely measured. The animals were allowed to come out of anesthesia in between blood samples. Blood samples were withdrawn at 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, and 6.0 hours. The blood was allowed to clot and then centrifuged to obtain serum. The drug concentration was

determined by using an HPLC method. After the last sample point, the transdermal drug delivery system was removed from the animal's skin and the site was examined for any "obvious" signs of irritation/reddening.

Serum Collection: The animals were bled from the eye into Microtainer serum separator tubes (Becton Dickinson, 5960). The blood (0.6 mL) was centrifuged at 4,000 rpm for 15 minutes (4,400 g) on a Beckman J-6M centrifuge with a JS-4.2 rotor. Serum was separated and frozen until the HPLC analysis. Before sample preparation, the serum was thawed and centrifuged again.

Sample Preparation: Two hundred and fifty microliters of serum were mixed with 250 mcL of water and 25 mcL of an internal standard, flunitrazepam 1 mcg/mL in methanol, were added. The sample was purified on a solid phase mini column, Adsorbex RP-18 (100 mg; EM Science) using the sample preparation unit Adsorbex SPU). The columns were treated before with 2 mL of methanol and washed with 4 mL of water. Samples were applied and the columns were washed with 4 mL of water. The columns were dried under vacuum (5" Hg) and eluted with two portions of 125 mcL of acetonitrile:water (1:1).

HPLC Conditions: Samples were analyzed on a Waters HPLC system using Waters 600E controller, Waters 712 WISP automatic sample injector and Applied Biosystems 785A programmable absorbance detector.

Column:	Waters Nova Pak C18, 75 X 3.9 mm
Flow rate:	2.0 mL/min
Mobile Phase:	25% acetonitrile in water (v/v)
Wavelength:	310 nm
Data collection:	2 points/sec, 1 V/AU, A/D = 0.1, rise time=1 sec
Injection volume:	100 mcL
Run time:	15 min/sample

The retention times of the inernal standard, flunitrazepam, and clonazepam or flumazenil were 5.5 and 4.5 minutes, respectively. The HPLC system is connected to a computer where a program was used to determine the area under the curve of the drug and the internal standard.

Lack Of Interference: The chromatogram of the HGP serum shows no peak at the retention time of clonazepam indicating an interference free detection of the drug.

Sensitivity And Linearity Of Response: A standard curve was made by adding clonazepam or flumazenil and the internal standard to HGP serum. A linear relationship was observed between the observed response and concentration of clonazepam in the range of 5 to 500 ng/mL. The recovery of the drug in these experiments was 75 $\pm$ 15%, and was corrected using the internal standard. Apparent limit of quantification was found to be about 5 ng/mL of clonazepam or flumazenil in the HGP serum.

Data Analysis: The HPLC data were computed in terms of drug concentration per unit volume of the serum and were plotted as a function of time. In such experiments, the blood levels are expected to rise to a maximum and then decline due to a decrease in the chemical

potential of the drug in the patch. No rate controlling membrane was placed at the bottom of the contemporary transdermal delivery dosage system.

Results

Table I

Formulation[a]	Max Blood Level Observed in HGP (ng/ml)
Example 1	130
Example 2	90
Example 3	80
Example 4	300
Example 5	37
Example 6	525
Example 7	470
Example 8	225
Example 9	273
Control A[b]	33
Control B[c]	15

a Dose was 12 mg per animal applied to an area of 9 cm sq.

b Control A contained 11 mg of clonazepam in a formulation comprised of 97% ethanol and 3% Klucel HF applied to an area of 9.8 cm^2

c Control B contained 12 mg of flumazenil in a formulation comprised of 97% ethanol and 3% Klucel HF applied to an area of 5.0 cm^2.

Results

Table II

Formulation[a]	Max Blood Level Observed in HPG (ng/ml)
Example 10	762
Example 11	733
Example 12	753
Example 13	200
Example 14	377
Example 15	249
Example 16	530
Control A[b]	15

[a] Drug concentration was 10 mg/Gm;
Dose was 12 mg per animal applied to an area of 9 cm sq.

[b] Control A contained 12 mg of flumazenil in a formulation comprised of 97% ethanol and 3% Klucel HF

By way of illustration, some suitable pharmaceutical compositions in accordance with this invention are set forth below. While clonazepam and flumazenil, the preferred benzodiazepine and benzodiazepine antagonist for the non-aqueous compositions and flumazenil, the preferred benzodiazepine antagonist for the aqueous compositions of this invention, are used to illustrate the compositions, it should be understood that other benzodiazepine and benzodiazepine antagonists may be substituted in appropriate amounts.

EXAMPLE 1

Clonazepam	0.010 Gm
Ethanol	0.900 Gm
Caprylic Acid	0.030 Gm
Oleic Acid	0.030 Gm
Klucel HF	0.030 Gm
Total	1.000 Gm

EXAMPLE 2

Clonazepam	0.010	Gm
Ethanol	0.702	Gm
Silicon Fluid	0.198	Gm
Caprylic Acid	0.030	Gm
Oleic Acid	0.030	Gm
Klucel HF	0.030	Gm
Total	1.000	Gm

EXAMPLE 3

Clonazepam	0.010	Gm
Ethanol	0.800	Gm
Benzyl Alcohol	0.100	Gm
Caprylic Acid	0.030	Gm
Oleic Acid	0.030	Gm
Klucel HF	0.030	Gm
Total	1.000	Gm

EXAMPLE 4

Clonazepam	0.010	Gm
Ethanol	0.600	Gm
Silicon Fluid	0.200	Gm
Benzyl Alcohol	0.100	Gm
Caprylic Acid	0.030	Gm
Oleic Acid	0.030	Gm
Klucel HF	0.030	Gm
Total	1.000	Gm

EXAMPLE 5

Clonazepam	0.010	Gm
Ethanol	0.510	Gm
Transcutol	0.200	Gm
Silicon Fluid	0.200	Gm
Caprylic Acid	0.030	Gm
Oleic Acid	0.030	Gm
Klucel HF	0.020	Gm
Total	1.000	Gm

EXAMPLE 6

Flumazenil	0.010	Gm
Ethanol	0.710	Gm
Silicon Dow 556	0.20	Gm
Caprylic Acid	0.03	Gm
Oleic Acid	0.03	Gm
Klucel HF	0.02	Gm
Total	1.000	Gm

EXAMPLE 7

Flumazenil	0.010	Gm
Ethanol	0.690	Gm
Silicon Dow 556	0.200	Gm
Dimethyl Sulfoxide	0.020	Gm
Oleic Acid	0.030	Gm
Caprylic Acid	0.030	Gm
Klucel HF	0.020	Gm
Total	1.000	Gm

EXAMPLE 8

Flumazenil	0.010	Gm
Ethanol	0.510	Gm
Acetone	0.200	Gm
Silicon DOW 556	0.200	Gm
Caprylic Acid	0.030	Gm
Oleic Acid	0.030	Gm
Klucel HF	0.020	Gm
Total	1.000	Gm

EXAMPLE 9

Flumazenil	0.010	Gm
Ethanol	0.24	Gm
Transcutol	0.250	Gm
Miglyol 840	0.360	Gm
Caprylic Acid	0.050	Gm
Oleic Acid	0.050	Gm
Klucel HF	0.040	Gm
Total	1.000	Gm

EXAMPLE 10

Flumazenil	0.010	Gm
Isopropanol	0.205	Gm
Propylene Glycol	0.410	Gm
Oleic Acid	0.050	Gm
Water	0.205	Gm
Klucel HF	0.010	Gm
Diacetin	0.110	Gm
Total	1.000	Gm

EXAMPLE 11

Flumazenil	0.010 Gm
Isopropanol	0.200 Gm
Propylene Glycol	0.380 Gm
Water	0.200 Gm
Oleic Acid	0.050 Gm
Klucel HF	0.010 Gm
Diacetin	0.100 Gm
Cetiol B	0.050 Gm
Total	1.000 Gm

EXAMPLE 12

Flumazenil	0.010 Gm
Isopropanol	0.220 Gm
Propylene Glycol	0.440 Gm
Water	0.220 Gm
Caprylic Acid	0 .050 Gm
Oleic Acid	0.050 Gm
Klucel HF	0.010 Gm
Total	1.000 Gm

EXAMPLE 13

Flumazenil	0.010 Gm
Isopropanol	0.198 Gm
Propylene Glycol	0.426 Gm
Water	0.198 Gm
Silicon Dow 556	0.099 Gm
Oleic Acid	0.049 Gm
Klucel HF	0.020 Gm
Total	1.000 Gm

EXAMPLE 14

	Flumazenil	0.010 Gm
	Isopropanol	0.228 Gm
5	Propylene Glycol	0.465 Gm
	Water	0.228 Gm
	Oleic Acid	0.049 Gm
	Klucel HF	0.020 Gm
	Total	1.000 Gm

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EXAMPLE 15

	Flumazenil	0.010 Gm
	Isopropanol	0.198 Gm
15	Propylene Glycol	0.426 Gm
	Water	0.198 Gm
	Miglyol 840	0.099 Gm
	Oleic Acid	0.049 Gm
	Klucel HF	0.020 Gm
20	Total	1.000 Gm

EXAMPLE 16

	Flumazenil	0.010 Gm
25	Isopropanol	0.198 Gm
	Propylene Glycol	0.426 Gm
	Water	0.198 Gm
	Oleic Acid	0.049 Gm
	Transcutol	0.099 Gm
30	Klucel HF	0.020 Gm
	Total	1.000 Gm

The various ingredients of the formulations were mixed together in a glass apparatus. The drug was dissolved in this mixture. The gelling agent was added to this solution and the contents were mixed by using shear provided by a magnetic stirrer.

CLAIMS

1. A pharmaceutical composition for transdermal delivery comprising an effective amount of an active ingredient selected from a benzodiazepine and a benzodiazepine antagonist, and either a) caprylic acid, ethanol, and oleic acid; or b) isopropanol, propylene glycol, oleic acid, and water.

2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the benzodiazepine is clonazepam.

3. The composition of claim 1, wherein the benzodiazepine antagonist is flumazenil.

4. The composition of any one of claims 1-3, wherein ethanol is present in an amount of from about 10 to about 95 percent by weight of the composition; caprylic acid is present in an amount of from about 1 to about 10 percent by weight of the composition and oleic acid is present in an amount of from about 1 to about 10 percent by weight of the composition.

5. The composition of any one of claims 1-3, wherein isopropanol is present in an amount of from about 10 to about 95 percent by weight of the composition, propylene glycol is present in an amount of from about 30 to about 50 percent by weight of the composition, oleic acid is present in an amount of from about 1 to about 10 percent by weight of the composition, and water is present in an amount from about 10 to about 30 percent by weight of the composition.

6. The composition of claim 4 or 5, further comprising hydroxypropyl cellulose in an amount of from about 1 to about 4 percent by weight of the composition.

7. The composition of claim 4 or 5, further comprising silicon fluid.

8. The composition of claim 4, further comprising benzyl alcohol.

9. The composition of claim 4, further comprising dimethyl sulfoxide.

10. The composition of claim 4, further comprising acetone.

11. The composition of claim 4, further comprising diethyl glycol monoethyl ether.

12. The composition of claim 4 or 5, further comprising caprylic/capric triglyceride.

13. The composition of claim 5, further comprising glycerol diacetate.

14. The composition of claim 13, further comprising dibutyl adipate.

15. The invention as described hereinbefore, especially with reference to the Examples.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int. onal Application No
PCT/EP 95/01519

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 A61K31/55 A61K47/00 A61K47/10 A61K47/12

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 6 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP,A,0 159 167 (TAKEDA CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES) 23 October 1985 see claims 1,9 see page 4, line 6 - page 6, line 3 see page 7, line 34 - page 9, line 23 see page 12, line 1 - page 14, line 20	1-15
A	CH,A,634 749 (KALI-CHEMIE PHARMA) 28 February 1983 see claims 1-3,9,10 see page 3, right column, line 14 - line 31	1-15

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

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1

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1992)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Inte. ...nal Application No
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